

	L #	Hits	Search Text
1	L3	1	IIs near10 "solid support"
2	L2	3	1 and "solid support"
3	L4	39	sage same (microarray or "solid support" or sequencing)
4	L1	5	IIs near10 immobiliz\$
5	L5	10	4 and "type IIs"
6	L6	7	4 and "type II"
7	L7	14	5 or 6

	L #	Hits	Search Text
8	L8	2942	("type II" or "type IIs") and (microarray or "solid support" or sequencing)
9	L9	77	8 and ("type II" or "type IIs") same (immobiliz\$ or "solid support")
10	L10	55	9 and sequencing

# What's New?

## Patent Office Gets Whopping \$1.4 Bil In Budget

### Patent Office Gets Whopping \$1.4 Bil In Budget

By Brian Krebs, Newsbytes

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The U.S. Patent & Trademark Office will receive nearly \$1.4 billion under the Bush administration's budget. The 21 percent funding increase will allow the agency to hire and train hundreds of patent to review the latest high-tech innovations, and should help the PTO realize its e-government goals schedule, PTO director James Rogan said today.

"That's an incredible investment and an acknowledgement that the work we do here is critical to th and technology," Rogan told reporters. .

A portion of that increase will come from a 19 percent hike in the fees inventors must pay to file pa applications, as well as a 10 percent surcharge in filing fees for trademarks.

The fee hikes are being called "a one-time surcharge," and should generate roughly \$207 million. C amount, \$162 million will be earmarked for the Bush administration's Homeland Security efforts. T remaining \$45 million will go toward enacting the patent office's business plan.

The precise details of the plan will be unveiled when the administration's FY2003 budget is released Monday. But Rogan said the excess money would be used to hire and train 950 new patent examin to reduce the backlog of patent applications. The funds also will help the PTO transfer its trademark a system into a fully electronic operation by 2004, Rogan said.

With the surcharge, the PTO estimates it will receive \$1.53 billion in patent and trademark fees in t year. Take away \$162 million for the Homeland Defense programs, and the PTO will come out ahea ability to spend 100 percent of the statutory fees it collects, plus \$45 million in surcharge fees, Rog

The extra cash should help the PTO to escape a trend in which it has received far less funding than amount allocated in each annual budget since 1992. Over the past decade, Congress has diverted r million in patent fees to unrelated programs.

All of which means the PTO can begin to reduce its mounting backlog of patent and trademark appl said Herbert Wamsley, executive director of the Intellectual Property Owners Association.

Wamsley said projections last year showed that by 2006, the average patent application would take months to clear. Currently, most patents are processed within 26 months, but industry groups have the PTO to cut that time down to 18 months.

"The good news in this proposal is that the PTO is getting substantially more money than it had in t approved 2002 budget," Wamsley said. "The bad news for PTO customers is the big increase in stat of which a significant amount is still being diverted."